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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method of rescinding previously transmitted e-mail messages by a sender, the message being addressed to a list of recipients, the method comprising the steps of:

storing the e-mail message on a computing system;
10 generating a notification message, the notification message for allowing the recipients to automatically access the e-mail message;

15 sending the notification message to the list of recipients; and

excluding recipients from the list of recipients whereby only recipients who remain in the list of
20 recipients may access the e-mail message.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein all recipients from the list are excluded.
- 25 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the e-mail message has a text portion, the sender being allowed to modify the text portion.
- 30 4. The method of Claim 3 wherein the stored message may be encrypted by a private key of a private key/public key pair, the public key being in the notification message for automatically decrypting the e-mail message.

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5. The method of Claim 4 wherein the computing system is the computing system on which the e-mail message was composed.
- 5 6. The method of Claim 4 wherein the computing system is a server, the server generating and sending the notification message to the recipients and sender.
- 10 7. A method of modifying a previously transmitted e-mail message by a sender, the message being addressed to a list of recipients, the method comprising the steps of:
- storing the e-mail message on a computing system;
- 15 generating a notification message, the notification message for allowing the recipients to automatically access the stored e-mail message;
- 20 sending the notification message to the list of recipients; and
- enabling the sender to modify the stored e-mail message.
- 25 8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the e-mail message has a text portion, the text portion being modified by the sender.
- 30 9. The method of Claim 7 wherein the e-mail message has a list of recipients, the list of recipients being modified by the sender.

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10. The method of Claim 7 wherein the stored e-mail message
may be encrypted by a private key of a private
key/public key pair, the public key being in the
5 notification message for automatically decrypting the
e-mail message.

11. A computer program product on a computer readable
medium for rescinding previously transmitted e-mail
10 messages by a sender, the message being addressed to a
list of recipients, the computer program product
comprising:

code means for storing the e-mail message on a
15 computing system;

code means for generating a notification message, the
notification message for allowing the recipients to
automatically access the e-mail message;

20 code means for sending the notification message to the
list of recipients; and

code means for excluding recipients from the list of
25 recipients whereby only recipients who remain in the
list of recipients may access the e-mail message.

12. The computer program product of Claim 11 wherein all
recipients from the list are excluded.

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13. The computer program product of Claim 12 wherein the e-mail message has a text portion, the sender being allowed to modify the text portion.
- 5 14. The computer program product of Claim 13 wherein the stored message may be encrypted by a private key of a private key/public key pair, the public key being in the notification message for automatically decrypting the e-mail message.
- 10 15. The computer program product of Claim 14 wherein the computing system is the computing system on which the e-mail message was composed.
- 15 16. The computer program product of Claim 14 wherein the computing system is a server, the server generating and sending the notification message to the recipients and sender.
- 20 17. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for modifying a previously transmitted e-mail message by a sender, the message being addressed to a list of recipients, the computer program product comprising:
- 25 code means for storing the e-mail message on a computing system;
- code means for generating a notification message, the notification message for allowing the recipients to
- 30 automatically access the stored e-mail message;

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code means for sending the notification message to the list of recipients; and

5 code means for enabling the sender to modify the stored e-mail message.

18. The computer program product of Claim 17 wherein the e-mail message has a text portion, the text portion being modified by the sender.

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19. The computer program product of Claim 17 wherein the e-mail message has a list of recipients, the list of recipients being modified by the sender.

15 20. The computer program product of Claim 17 wherein the stored e-mail message may be encrypted by a private key of a private key/public key pair, the public key being in the notification message for automatically decrypting the e-mail message.

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21. An apparatus for rescinding previously transmitted e-mail messages by a sender, the message being addressed to a list of recipients, the apparatus comprising:

25 means for storing the e-mail message on a computing system;

means for generating a notification message, the notification message for allowing the recipients to automatically access the e-mail message;

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means for sending the notification message to the list of recipients; and

5 means for excluding recipients from the list of recipients whereby only recipients who remain in the list of recipients may access the e-mail message.

10 22. The apparatus of Claim 21 wherein all recipients from the list are excluded.

23. The apparatus of Claim 22 wherein the message has a text portion, the sender being allowed to modify the text portion.

15 24. The apparatus of Claim 23 wherein the stored message may be encrypted by a private key of a private key/public key pair, the public key being in the notification message for automatically decrypting the e-mail message.

20 25. The apparatus of Claim 24 wherein the computing system is the computing system on which the e-mail message was composed.

25 26. The apparatus of Claim 24 wherein the computing system is a server, the server generating and sending the notification message to the recipients and sender.

30 27. An apparatus for modifying a previously transmitted e-mail message by a sender, the message being addressed to a list of recipients, the apparatus comprising:

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means for storing the e-mail message on a computing system;

5 means for generating a notification message, the notification message for allowing the recipients to automatically access the stored e-mail message;

means for sending the notification message to the list of recipients; and

10 means for enabling the sender to modify the stored e-mail message.

28. The apparatus of Claim 27 wherein the e-mail message
15 has a text portion, the text portion being modified by the sender.

29. The apparatus of Claim 27 wherein the e-mail message
20 has a list of recipients, the list of recipients being modified by the sender.

30. The apparatus of Claim 27 wherein the stored e-mail
message may be encrypted by a private key of a private
key/public key pair, the public key being in the
25 notification message for automatically decrypting the e-mail message.

31. A system for rescinding previously transmitted e-mail
messages by a sender, the message being addressed to a
30 list of recipients, the system for comprising:

at least one storage device for storing code data; and

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5 at least one processor for processing the code data to
store the e-mail message thereon, to generate a
notification message, the notification message for
allowing the recipients to automatically access the
stored e-mail message, to send the notification message
to the list of recipients, and to exclude recipients
from the list of recipients whereby only recipients who
remain in the list of recipients may access the e-mail
10 message.

32. The system of Claim 31 wherein all recipients from the
list are excluded.

15 33. The system of Claim 32 wherein the e-mail message has a
text portion, the sender being allowed to modify the
text portion.

20 34. The system of Claim 33 wherein the stored message may
be encrypted by a private key of a private key/public
key pair, the public key being in the notification
message for automatically decrypting the e-mail
message.

25 35. The system of Claim 34 wherein the computing system is
the computing system on which the e-mail message was
composed.

30 36. The system of Claim 34 wherein the computing system is
a server, the server generating and sending the
notification message to the recipients and sender.

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37. A system for allowing a previously transmitted e-mail message by a sender to be modified, the message being addressed to a list of recipients, the system comprising:

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at least one storage device for storing code data; and

at least one processor for processing the code data to store the e-mail message thereon, to generate a notification message, the notification message for
10 allowing the recipients to automatically access the stored e-mail message, to send the notification message to the list of recipients, and to enable the sender to modify the stored e-mail message.

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38. The system of Claim 37 wherein the e-mail message has a text portion, the text portion being modified by the sender.

20 39. The system of Claim 37 wherein the e-mail message has a list of recipients, the list of recipients being modified by the sender.

25 40. The system of Claim 37 wherein the stored e-mail message may be encrypted by a private key of a private key/public key pair, the public key being in the notification message for automatically decrypting the e-mail message.

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